रक्षा सहयोग के संबंध में इस्रायल के साथ सरकारी तौर पर चर्चा

180. **श्री गोविन्दराम मिरी:** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने रक्षा विकास के मामलों में सहयोग करने के संबंध में इस्रायल के साथ सरकारी तौर पर चर्चा की है;

(ख) दोनों देशों के बीच रक्षा सहयोग किन-किन क्षेत्रों में किया जायेगा और इस संबंध में दोनों देशों का दृष्टिकोण क्या है;

(ग) क्या दोनों देशों के बीच अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ रक्षा सहयोग के क्षेत्रों पर चर्चा करते समय व्यापक परमाणु परीक्षण प्रतिबंध संधि (सी०टी०बी०टी०) के मुद्दे पर भी चर्चा की गयी थी; और

(घ) दोनों देशों के बीच अनुमानित कितनी राशि का रक्षा सौदा किया जायेगा?

रक्षा मंत्री (श्री जॉर्ज फर्नान्डीज): (क) और (ख) भारत सरकार की नीति इस्रायल सहित मित्र राष्ट्रों के साथ रक्षा संबंधी सहयोग बढ़ाने की है। इस प्रकार के सहयोग में राजनीतिक स्तर के एक या सभी घटकों से संबंधित आदान-प्रदान, सिविलियन व सैन्य शिष्टमंडलों का एक-दूसरे के देश में आना-जाना, रक्षा आपूर्तियां, रक्षा उत्पादन तथा अनुसंधान व विकास शामिल है। इस सहयोग का विस्तार और गहनता देश विशेष के साथ आपसी विश्वास की सीमा तथा एक-दूसरे की सुरक्षा संबंधी चिंताओं, प्राथमिकताओं और आकांक्षाओं को समझने के स्तर जैसे बहुत से कारकों पर निर्भर करती है।

(ग) व्यापक परमाणु परीक्षण प्रतिबंध संधि के प्रति भारत के दृष्टिकोण का मामला दोनों देशों के बीच रक्षा संबंधी सहयोग की औपचारिक कार्यसूची में कभी सम्मिलित नहीं रहा है।

(घ) इस संबंध में ब्यौरे देना राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से उचित नहीं होगा।

Recommendation of NCM for minority status to Hindus

181. SHRI N.R. DASARI:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on Minorities has recommended Government to grant minority status to Hindus residing in Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir and four North-Eastern States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) to (b) The National Commission for Minorities has, *inter alia*, recommended that the Hindus in Jammu & Kashmir, along with the Hindus of the States of Mchgalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Punjab and the Union Territories of Chandigarh and Lakshdweep be accorded the status of formally and legally recognised State level Authorities and necessary laws be cnacted for this purpose without any delay. The matter is under consideration.

Violence Against Christians in Gujarat

182. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Minorities had submitted any report and recommendation regarding violence against christians in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the gist of the report and the recommendations; and

(c) what action has been taken on the report and the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The reports received from the National Commission for Minorities

in regard to the incidents in Gujarat have been forwarded to the Government of Gujarat for taking appropriate action insofar as the matter relates to the State Government. Under section 9 (3) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992, the recommendations made to the State Government under section 9(1) (c) are required to be laid before the State Legislature, along with an action taken memorandum. The recommendations pertairning to the Union Government contained in the said reports are under examination. Under section 9(2) of the said Act, the recommendations made to the Union Government under section 9 (1) (c) are required to be laid by it before each House of Parliament along with an action taken memorandum. The reports, along with the action taken memorandum, will be laid before each House of Parliament in due course.

Increase in Attacks on Minorities

183. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the reasons for increase in attacks on minorities in the country in the recent past;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what special steps have been taken to eliminate such attacks and to punish the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) No such study has been made at the Central level.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Though "Public Order" and "Police" are State subjects as per the Constitution of India and maintenance of law and order and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments, the Central Government has been taking several measures to keep the communal situation under control and to provide protection to the minorities. Some of these measures are mentioned below:

(i) Sharing intelligence with the State Governments.

(ii) Sending advisories to the State Governments from time to time.

(iii) Assisting the State Governments by providing the Central Para-Military Forces, etc. (The Central Government has also constituted a Special Force, viz., Rapid Action Force, for controlling communal riots and tensions).

(iv) Assisting the State Governments in upgrading their policing infrastructure.

After the recent incidents involving minorities, the Chief Secretaries of the concerned States have been advised to issue suitable instructions to the district law and order enforcing authorities to respond immediately to the complaints relating to harassment of minorities and initiate prompt and effective action to identify and punish guilty persons.

A Commission of Inquiry consisting of Mr. Justice D.P. Wadhwa, a sitting Judge of the Supreme Court, has been appointed by the Central Government to look into the killing of Mr. Graham Stewart Staines and his two sons on the night of 22/23rd January, 1999 in will. Manoharpur, Distt. Keonjhar, Orissa.

The Government is firmly of the view that acts of violence against any community, wherever and in whatever form they occur, must be dealt with sternly and examplary punishment awarded to the perpetrators of such violence.

Attacks on Christians

184. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various attacks on Christian missionaries, their institutions and people of Christian faith;